

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as indicated hereafter. It is believed that the following amendments and additions add no new matter to the present application.

Please replace the paragraph starting on p. 2, line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

Generally, a transport stream includes a plurality of elementary streams, and each elementary stream is made up of packets that have a common PID value. Within a transport stream, each elementary stream is associated with a PID value, such that no two elementary streams are associated with the same PID value.

Please replace the paragraph starting on p. 10, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

Switch 220, an example of which is an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) switch, and the router 222 provide an interface to a gateways 226(A) and 226(B), respectively; and the gateways 226(A) and 226(B) provide, among other things, access to the internet and output network transport streams 250(E) and 250(F), respectively. The router 222 receives messages from the DHCTs 110 via QPSK modem array 228. The messages from the DHCTs 110 frequently include session/control messages, which are used for creating and controlling a session. Typically, the router 222 routes the session/control messages to the application server 216(A), or the router 222 sends the messages to other appropriate devices such as network controller 234 or sub-network controller 236. The headend 102 and hub 104 also contain at least one modulator that receives a network transport stream and converts the transport stream into a modulated signal, such as, for example, a radio frequency modulated signal. In the preferred embodiment, the hub 104, which acts as ~~min-headed~~ a mini-headend, introduces programming into the DBDS 100, which is modulated and transmitted by MQAM 230. Generally, the headend 102 includes a plurality of MQAMs 230, and hub 104 includes at least one MQAM. In alternative embodiments, the headend 102 and hub 104 include other transmitters for transmitting content to the subscribers 108.

Please replace the paragraph starting on p. 22, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

It should be noted that a controller, a sub-network controller 236 or the network controller 234, can usually unambiguously map the network transport streams, the network transport stream sources and the network transport stream handlers by remapping the TSID 402 of the network transport streams. Referring now to FIG. 7A, consider, for example, a network 700 having network transport stream sources 702 and 704, intermediate transport stream handlers 706, 708, 710, 712 and 714, and output transport stream handlers 716, 718, 720, 722 and 724. Some network transport stream sources, such as satellite signal receivers, might not be configured to remap TSIDs and/or might not be configured to respond to ~~INSTM~~ INTSM messages. However, a partial network transport stream map that includes all of the network transports stream handlers can still be made.